

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Media Lecture

Dialogue & Concert

"The Future of Art and Environment as seen from the Year 2050"

by **Ryuichi Sakamoto (Musician)**

Guests: **Shinichi Takemura (Cultural anthropologist), Sachiko M (Musician)**

December 16 (Fri), 2011 start 19:00 Venue opens 30 minutes prior to the start

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio A This event will be streamed live via Internet

Ryuichi Sakamoto comes to YCAM in order to formulate a message to future generations, and transmit from the heart of Yamaguchi out into the world.

The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] hosts a dialogue (talk) and live music event with musician Ryuichi Sakamoto and guests, titled "The Future of Art and Environment as seen from the Year 2050".

Assuming the post of artistic director for the program celebrating the ten year anniversary of YCAM, a facility dedicated to artistic creative work reviewing human involvement in society and the environment from a new perspective, Sakamoto aims to formulate and transmit a message to future generations.

In a dialogue on "civilization from the viewpoint of the year 2050," Sakamoto and cultural anthropologist Shinichi Takemura will discuss from a long-term point of view aspects of society and the environment in the future, and reflect on how we are supposed to deal with environmental issues in light of the significant changes that our society is currently going through. Ryuichi Sakamoto and YCAM, an institution that aims to function as a launching pad for media art that facilitates exchange between individuals and regions around the globe, will together work out and announce a set of possible new solutions.

Additionally, in his first ever joint concert with Sachiko M, Sakamoto will challenge a combination of improvised piano and sine wave performance.

This event will be streamed live via Internet.



Ryuichi Sakamoto

dialogue

Ryuichi Sakamoto + Shinichi Takemura

concert

Ryuichi Sakamoto + Sachiko M

Piano

Sinewaves

INQUIRY

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Reflecting on the future of art and environment from a long-term perspective focused on the year 2050

New possibilities opened up by art and culture

Preceding the Center's anniversary celebrations, YCAM hosts an event in which Ryuichi Sakamoto and guests will formulate and send out a message to future generations around the world.

In November 2013, the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] will be celebrated with a special program designed to showcase and promote diverse creative endeavors inspired by "art and media" as a message sent out to future generations.

Aiming to re-examine human involvement in culture and the environment from a new perspective, and develop the Center's activity into an urban practice model, YCAM appointed musician Ryuichi Sakamoto as artistic director for the anniversary program.

"The Future of Art and Environment seen from the Year 2050" is an event themed around "civilization from the viewpoint of the year 2050," combining a dialogue between Ryuichi Sakamoto and cultural anthropologist Shinichi Takemura, as well as Sakamoto's first ever co-performance with musician Sachiko M.

How are we supposed to envision the future, and face environmental issues against the backdrop of a rapidly transforming and progressing information society?

The outline of this event is based on the importance of a long-term perspective on the compelling problem of the relationship between art and environment that we are confronted with especially since the great earthquake and nuclear accident in March 2011.

The answers on the questions what we are supposed to create for the future, and what art and culture can contribute, which Sakamoto and his guests will work out with an eye to the year 2050, are going to be broadcast live around the world via Internet streaming.

Ryuichi Sakamoto

Musician



Ryuichi Sakamoto made his debut in 1978 with the album "The Thousand Knives" as well as joining the internationally acclaimed, YMO (Yellow Magic Orchestra). After YMO broke up (the band officially called it 'spread-out'), he composed the music score for many feature films. While he gained worldwide stature by winning the Academy Award as a composer, he has always pursued innovative music and sounds. In 2006 he established "commons", aimed at the creation of a new music community. He is always casting about for new forms for delivering music.

Following his 1999 opera "LIFE", Sakamoto became outspoken on the issues of the environment, peace, and social issues. In reaction to the simultaneous terrorist attacks of 9/11, he edited

an anthology Hisen (Non-war). That same year he founded "artists' power", an artists' organization that advocates the encouragement and use of renewable energy.

After the devastating earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear power plants disasters of March 11, 2011, Sakamoto along with Tomoyasu Hirano founded kizunaworld.org. "kizunaworld" aims to empower individuals to get involved with helping afflicted people through donations without aligning with any agency or organization. As a gift for the donations, donators are able to download exclusive material from a diverse cast of prominent artists, with more being continuously added. Ryuichi Sakamoto resides in New York City.



Audio visual installation
"LIFE - fluid, invisible, inaudible..."
(2006, commissioned by YCAM)

Profile

Dialogue guest

Shinichi Takemura

Cultural anthropologist

Having travelled to more than 70 countries during his 20s, Takemura Shinichi has been deeply involved with life and water on earth through his work as a cultural anthropologist. Moreover, he has been expanding social experimental projects utilizing new technology to create the world's first multimedia globe called "Tangible Earth", which he designed in 2005, receiving a "Gold award in good design". The Tangible Earth is on display in many places around the world, including Experimentarium in Copenhagen, NEMO in Amsterdam, and is to be exhibited at United Nation's headquarter (visitor center) in New York City in October, 2011.

Professor Takemura is now a member of the Study Group of the Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, an advisory panel to Prime Minister Kan Naoto. The Council is now proposing recommendations regarding the post-disaster recovery, including community roles in municipality-led reconstruction, and rigorous promotion of the use of renewable energy, in the shadow of the ongoing Fukushima nuclear disaster. Professor Takemura's many publications include "Toward a Planetary Culture" (PHP) and "Cosmic Tree" (Keio University Press).

Concert guest

Sachiko M

Musician / Sinewaves

Sachiko M, a proudly independent improviser, has been in the spotlight internationally for manipulating sine waves of a sampler's internal test tones, extremely simplified minimalist sounds using switching noise, and her approach to music with meticulous attention. Since 1994, she has been active as a central sampler player involved in the cut-up and plunderphonics (audio piracy sampling). In 1998, she drastically changed her approach and originated her own method of playing the sampler. With the release of "Sine Wave Solo" in 2000 consisting entirely of sine waves, she became the focus of interest on the international scene including British magazine "Wire," and European music festivals. Since then she has been active in a number of projects including the experimental electronic music duo "Filament" with Otomo Yoshihide, the electronic trio "I.S.O." with Otomo Yoshihide and Yoshimitsu Ichiraku (from Yamaguchi), a duo with Toshimaru Nakamura, and the duo "Cosmos" with Ami Yoshida. She is currently working on solo works and projects — the live series "Bar Sachiko" and the sound installation "I'm here."

Event data

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by Ryuichi Sakamoto (Musician)

Dialogue guest: Shinichi Takemura (Cultural Anthropologist)

Concert guest: Sachiko M (Musician / Sinewaves)

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Ticket information

Admission: [Free seating]

Advanced tickets ¥2,500

"any" members & special discounts ¥2,000

Under 26 ¥1,800

Tickets at the door ¥3,000**Phone YCAM ticket information desk:****+81-83-920-6111**

(10:00-19:00 closed on Tuesdays or on Wednesdays in case Tuesday is a public holiday)

Online:**<http://www.ycfcp.or.jp/>**

(open 24 hours, user registration required. Japanese only)

Organized by: Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion

In association with: Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Board of Education

Cooperation: Kab America Inc., Kab Inc., Yamaha Corporation

Produced by: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

■ Special discount

A special discount is available for seniors over 65, as well as for handicapped persons and one accompanying care person each. Children of preschool age or younger are not admitted.

■ Childcare service

This service is available for children aged six months or older.

Times: From 30 minutes prior to the performance until 30 minutes after the performance

Fees: ¥500 for one child; ¥300 per child for two or more children

Application: Applications must be made one week prior to the event at the latest via the ticket information desk.

■ Wheelchairs

Please contact the venue for information.